

Claim 19. (New) The image processing apparatus of claim 16, wherein the judging section is operable to determine a minimum pixel value contained in the pixel as underflowing from the predetermined gradation range; and wherein the color balance adjustment section is operable to cause the minimum pixel value to agree with the minimum value of the predetermined gradation range.

Claim 20. (New) The image processing apparatus of claim 16, wherein the color balance adjustment section is operable to maintain the ratio and/or the average value of the pixel value of the pixel for adjustment.

REMARKS

Applicants have canceled claims 1-10 and added new claims 11-20.

Applicants request that the foregoing amendment be entered prior to examination.

An early and favorable response is earnestly solicited.

No fee is believed to be due, however, should a fee become due the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any fee associated with this filing from Deposit Account No. 500624.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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